

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Cyano and carboxy derivatives of substituted styrenes are inhibitors of tumor necrosis factor α , nuclear factor κ B, and phosphodiesterase and can be used to combat cachexia, endotoxic shock, retrovirus replication, asthma, and inflammatory conditions. A typical
5 embodiment is 3,3-*bis*-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)acrylonitrile.